

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTINUOUSLY FORMING DYE
SUBLIMATION IMAGES IN SOLID SUBSTRATES**

Abstract of the Invention

- 5 A method for forming a dye sublimation image in a substrate with a dye carrier having an image formed thereon of a sublimatic dyestuff is provided. The image of the dye carrier is placed against a first surface of the substrate. The substrate and dye carrier are conveyed along a path with a first part and a second part. A continuous pressure is provided against the first surface of the substrate in the first
- 10 part and second part of the path and therebetween. The dye carrier is heated to a sublimation temperature in the first part of the path. The dye carrier is then cooled to a depressure temperature in the second part of the path.